

Circular is for friends of Circle.
We invite your feedback.

C I R C L E

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Convergence in Copenhagen

In mid January, Robert L. Peters travelled to Denmark in his current role as President Elect of the International Council of Graphic Design Associations (Icograda). A European-region meeting at the stylish new Danish Design Center brought together professional association representatives from Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Germany, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Italy and Lithuania for open dialogue and exchange. The Icograda board also held its quarterly meeting in Copenhagen. (Icograda Board, L to R: Guy Schockaert, Belgium; Martha Bateman, South Africa; Ahn Sang-Soo, Korea; Sanja Rocco, Croatia; Leimei Julia Chiu, Japan; David Grossman, Israel; Russell Bevers, Australia; and Robert L. Peters, Canada).



California Dreamin'

As part of his Masters studies, 'Segun Olude visited Santa Monica, California, this February. 'Segun and his classmates toured award-winning studios in the Los Angeles area and attended discussions at TBWA/Chiat/Day, the studios responsible for Apple Computers' advertising. "I took in a year's worth of information during those meetings," says 'Segun. The week also included two full days of critiques; each student made their quarterly presentation and answered questions from faculty and students. His next trip will see him in Seattle, 'the coffee capital of the world'.



In Search of the Great Harmony

The March/April 2001 issue of Communication Arts (CA) magazine includes an article by Robert L. Peters, reporting on the Icograda Millennium Congress in Seoul, Korea. This remarkable gathering of 1500 designers from 40 countries explored new paradigms with which to transcend the problems of the past 200 years.



Fall seven times. Stand up eight.

~ JAPANESE PROVERB ~

By 'Segun Olude, MGDC

Circle of Life

I grew up in a city and knew a little about birds laying eggs from the few chickens that my mother kept in the back yard – the rest I know from reading biology text books. Having lived in cities all my life, I have missed many things that rural dwellers probably experience every day, like the seasonal changes in nature as things grow and die.

Last year, my family received a gift from nature – a bird had built its nest in a hanging flower pot by our front door. When we tried to remove the nest, it was so firmly anchored into the pot that we decided to leave it alone. I was amazed by the structural strength of this simple bowl-shaped nest.

A few days later, to our complete surprise, there were eggs in the nest! We were overjoyed. We had never seen anything like that before, so I documented every stage of the metamorphosis in the photos shown here – showing the circle of life of a robin. We were thankful for our neighbors' advice not to touch the eggs, or the robin would have abandoned the nest. Phew!

This experience has opened my eyes to some of the things we miss by spending a lot of time inside artificial environments like cities. It is also a testimony to Winnipeg's claim to being one of the greenest cities in North America. Where else would you find deer grazing around the soccer field, rabbits in the backyard, and squirrels everywhere? Certainly not in New York. Unless perhaps cities hold secrets that we don't often see.



From a new home to an empty nest, the circle of life unfolds on my doorstep. The whole family was glad to have the 'new neighbors' for a while, and we had to restrain ourselves from touching the eggs or feeding the birds.

When it was time to go, Mama Robin left the nest, two of the young ones went with her, but the third one stayed for two more days before it finally flew away. We have not heard or seen them since. 🐦